



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# News Release

Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture  
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December 1, 2010 Hog Inventory

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The inventory of all hogs and pigs in Montana on December 1, 2010 was 180,000 head, up 3 percent from a year ago, according to USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Montana Field Office. Breeding stock was unchanged from 2009 at 23,000 head but market hogs were up 3 percent to 157,000 head.

There were 44,500 sows that farrowed in Montana during the December 2009 through November 2010 season, up 5 percent from a year ago. The number of pigs per litter decreased to 9.91 and resulted in an annual pig crop of 441,000 head, a 2 percent increase from last year.

United States inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2010 was 64.3 million head. This was down 1 percent from December 1, 2009, and down 2 percent from September 1, 2010.

Breeding inventory, at 5.78 million head, was down 1 percent from last year, but up slightly from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 58.5 million head, was down 1 percent from last year, and down 2 percent from last quarter.

The September-November 2010 pig crop, at 28.2 million head, was down slightly from 2009. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.85 million head, down 2 percent from 2009. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 49 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was a record high 9.89 for the September-November 2010 period, compared to 9.70 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.70 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 10.00 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

United States hog producers intend to have 2.86 million sows farrow during the December 2010-February 2011 quarter, down 1 percent from the actual farrowings during the December 2009-February 2010 quarter, and down 5 percent from December 2008-February 2009 quarter. Intended farrowings for March-May 2011, at 2.86 million sows, are down 2 percent from 2010 and down 5 percent from 2009.

The total number of hogs under contract owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 45 percent of the total United States hog inventory, up from 44 percent last year.

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### Hogs & Pigs Inventory December 1, 2009-2010

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